

ASSEMBLY, No. 1677

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “Residential Water Quality Assurance Program” in DEP; requires certain disclosures from residents and property owners regarding lead in drinking water.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT establishing the “Residential Water Quality Assurance
2 Program” in the Department of Environmental Protection and
3 supplementing Title 58 of the Revised Statutes.
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*
7

8 1. As used in this act:

9 "Certified laboratory" means a drinking water testing laboratory
10 that has been certified to test drinking water for lead by the
11 department, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, or
12 another state.

13 "Department" means the Department of Environmental
14 Protection.

15 "Lead action level" means the action level for lead in drinking
16 water established by the United States Environmental Protection
17 Agency, or a more stringent action level adopted by the department
18 pursuant to the "Safe Drinking Water Act," P.L.1977, c.224
19 (C.58:12A-1 et al.).

20 "Program" means the "Residential Water Quality Assurance
21 Program" established pursuant to section 2 of this act
22

23 2. a. There is established in the department the “Residential
24 Water Quality Assurance Program” in order to provide access to
25 free drinking water lead tests to residents and property owners.

26 b. A resident or owner of a residential property constructed
27 prior to January 1, 1990 shall receive, upon application to the
28 department in a form and manner to be prescribed by the
29 department, a free lead testing kit. The resident or owner shall be
30 responsible for taking samples of the drinking water in the dwelling
31 unit or property, and for mailing or delivering the samples to a
32 certified laboratory for testing, in accordance with sampling and
33 mailing instructions to be provided by the department.

34 c. A qualified applicant shall not be responsible for any costs
35 incurred in connection with testing undertaken pursuant to the
36 program.

37 d. The department shall develop and maintain a computer
38 database containing the address of each property tested and the test
39 results.

40 e. The department shall ensure that an address, or a dwelling
41 unit in the case of a property containing multiple dwelling units,
42 receives a maximum of one free test.

43 f. The department shall develop an application process by
44 which a resident or property owner can apply for the program, as
45 well as sampling and mailing instructions to be provided to a
46 qualified applicant. The mailing instructions shall include a
47 directive that one copy of the test results be returned to the
48 department, and one copy to the resident or owner.

